

MEMORANDUM

TO : BM/SGN
FROM : SZ/DAD
SUBJECT : DANANG Station Monthly Report for March 1970

DATE: 04 April 1970

REF. No. SZDAD/70/037

GENERAL

No significant incidents of hostile activity were reported during the month of March. However, in the early morning of 1 April, two 122mm rockets impacted on the Danang Air Base. No casualties were sustained as a result of these explosions. There has been a generalized increase in overall security measures in the Danang area and increased enemy activity has been forecast by several sources.

One Southern Air Transport flight was handled by the station on 2 March.

The local customs office has agreed to the deletion of the ground transportation and generalized compliance with instructions provisions of their overtime authorization form. This information has been communicated to GAM/SGN and it is anticipated that approval to sign the form will be received shortly.

The sale of commodities in bulk quantities (cases of soft drinks and milk) to [REDACTED] personnel by the snack-bar was discussed with the USAF Base Commander. It was agreed that this practice would be discontinued and such sales have now ceased. A moderate renovation on the snack bar was accomplished by the NCO club during the last three days of March.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

The local CORDS Air Operations Officer has voiced some interest in attempting to gain approval to embark and disembark customer passengers at Danang on company international flights. Apparently these flights are utilized to a certain extent by I Corps based personnel on R&R and such an arrangement would eliminate the need for travelling to Saigon to board the aircraft. The matter has been referred to customer channels in Saigon for action.

LEGAL

Tentative plans have been formulated to renovate the present company hostel and to expand same to include the adjacent Station Manager's residence. Should this plan be implemented, SZ/DAD will have to relocate to other quarters. Preliminary investigations indicate that with the recent reduction in the value of the piastre, suitable accommodations would cost approximately 40,000\$VN per month in rent.

FACILITIES

It is understood that the pro forma ARs for the Danang concrete Paving/Drainage Ditch Completion and Passenger Terminal Renovation projects have now been approved. Further action on these facilities improvements are presently pending approval of the required Forms F.

If funds are provided, a customer decision will be necessary to determine which of the two passenger terminal improvement projects under consideration will be selected. Renovation of the CSD warehouse is still pending a release of the building from the Embassy.

FISCAL

The Grand Hotel, Danang, has agreed to extend credit to the company when rooms are required for flight crew personnel. Previously, it was necessary to make cash payments in advance when insufficient space was available in the company hostel. Room vouchers will be issued by flight operations when required.

██████████ payroll for the month totaled: ██████████

Petty cash expenditures totaled: 34,530\$VN

OPERATIONS

As anticipated, revenue flight time returned to normal in March as compared to the depression in February. After two passenger flight schedule changes by CORDS, a morning departure, direct Saigon, was re-established utilizing C46 equipment, which requires this aircraft to RON daily. It is not utilized on Sundays, since an alternate flight schedule with a C47 out of Saigon is substituted that day of the week. Apparently the C46 load factors are being closely monitored by the AID customer to determine if daily C47 service might be sufficient.

The following is a breakdown of flight time generated by this station during March:

VN-70/AID	- - - - -	788+08
VN-70/Embassy	- - - - -	182+07
0069	- - - - -	7+31
0005	- - - - -	Nil
Total	- - - - -	977+46

Revenue losses for the month were as follows:

Weather	- - - - -	23+50
Maintenance	- - - - -	13+30
Customer Cancellation	- -	2+10
Other	- - - - -	Nil
Total	- - - - -	39+30

The hostel occupancy factor was 84%. During the month a total of 7,400 piastres were disbursed to provide hotel accommodations for flight crew personnel. Non-availability certificates for a total of 41 nights were issued to TCS ground personnel.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minor interference problems continue to be experienced on HF, but overall radio communications were satisfactory.

Incoming and outgoing messages totaled 1634 and 1758 respectively.

TRAFFIC

Discussions with SRTM/SVN indicate that reasonable progress is being made towards the eventual procurement of a set of cargo weighing scales. The processing of the Danang AR was delayed somewhat to permit consolidation with the same requirement at Nha-Trang.

Passenger and cargo statistics for the month are as follows:

	<u>PAX IN</u>	<u>PAX OUT</u>	<u>CARGO IN</u>	<u>CARGO OUT</u>
VN-70/AID	2,613	2,479	222,123	301,013
VN-70/Embassy	534	613	4,060	4,946
0069	-	6	-	-
0030	8	5	-	-
0005	-	-	-	-
AAH	71	110	13,706.4	41,567.1
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>3,226</u>	<u>3,213</u>	<u>239,889.4</u>	<u>347,526.1</u>

SECURITY

Authorization was obtained from the VNAF security office to permit the scheduling of one GTD driver until 2100 hours daily. Previous to this approval it was necessary to have non-driver personnel operate company vehicles when transportation requirements generated past 1900 hours.

At least until the end of April, no problems with air base passes should be encountered. All ground personnel now have valid passes although some are only for temporary duration. To date, flight personnel have not been required to produce valid passes on entering the base.

PERSONNEL

Both CM/DAD and SOR/DAD returned from home leave in March.

Expected problems with the local immigration authorities did not materialize. No employee has reported being subjected to a residence check or being required to produce his passport for any reason. It is often difficult to determine whether or not various prerogatives of the local authorities will be exercised.

PM/SGN has advised that work permit applications for certain job titles are being closely scrutinized by the Ministry of Labor. Such a permit has already been disapproved for one Danang based TCN employee. It appears as though the Vietnamese Government is now making a concerted effort to require the replacement of non-technical TCN personnel with local nationals.

Since the closing of the "New Hostel" company provided accommodations have not been available to TCS ground personnel. Although not great in number, Scale B and Vietnamese personnel assigned TCS to Danang confirm that the present per diem rates are insufficient to meet living expenses on the economy.

The personnel breakdown for Danang Station at the close of business, 31 March 1970, was as follows:

Permanent	4	18	13	70
Pre-Process	0	0	0	1
Temporary	0	0	0	0
Daily Hire	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (105)	4	18	13	71

TECHNICAL SERVICES

RMD handled a total of 593 arriving and 591 departing flights, as compared to 539 and 542 respectively in February. Delays attributable to maintenance, which resulted in a revenue loss, totaled: 2. Five heavy (four number 1, and one number 2) services were performed on 204B aircraft. Five aircraft were placed on AGP status during the month, and two outstation recoveries were necessary. No engine changes were required but on VTB propeller was changed due to blade damage.

Maintenance services were requested by the pilots of two non-company aircraft. After coordination with SGN it was agreed to provide minor assistance if a CHR was signed. The Captain of a C.A.L. operated Tradewind aircraft refused this proposal, but a set of sparkplugs was changed on a RLAF C47 since the pilot in command had no such objection.

RCMD expended a total of 752 manhours of which 40 were utilized in the maintenance of leased properties. Significant projects included repainting the streetside of the Operations/Administration building and the construction of a "hump", with USAF provided PSP, at the road entrance to the aircraft parking ramp.

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It has been reported that the U.S. Army will assume the operation of the present Naval Support Activity sometime in June or July. It is not known at this time if there will be any affect on the company supply account when this changeover is made.

Original Signed by
WINSTON C. CAMBRE
Winston C. Cambre

cc: file